

**Joan L. Eisenstodt**, whose expertise is in facilitation and training, program planning, facility and vendor negotiations and contracts, and meeting management training, brings more than 35 years of experience to her work. She founded Eisenstodt Associates, a Washington, DC-based consulting, facilitation and training company, in 1981.

*Joan* works with corporations, associations, professional societies, foundations, and hotel companies and convention and visitors bureaus to facilitate and design meetings, negotiate contracts, provide training, and conduct focus groups. She is also involved with her own learning center in Virtualis™, a SecondLife™ meeting destination.

In addition to clients with whom she works, *Joan* is retained as a hospitality industry expert witness and is on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Convention and Event Tourism*. She is active in the hospitality industry and in her community where she has served on boards of community and education-related organizations. She currently serves on the Executive Board of the Newton-Marasco Foundation ([www.newtonmarascofoundation.org](http://www.newtonmarascofoundation.org)), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire responsible environmental stewardship. *Joan* has also served as a customer advisor to a number of hospitality industry companies. She was the only meeting professional speaker at the 2006 California Tourism Safety & Security Conference, and at the inaugural and subsequent Arizona Tourism Safety and Security Conferences at which she conducted sessions on safety and risk management for meetings and facilities. She also conducted training at the 2008 Arizona Tourism Safety and Security Conference.

She served 4 years on the Board of Directors of Meeting Professionals International (MPI), an organization in which she has been active since 1979. She represented MPI on the Joint Industry Task Force on Diversity, and served on MPI's Education Strategic Task Force after years of other committee service. *Joan* served 3 years as a Trustee of the MPI Foundation, and, for the last 3 years, served as Chair of the MPI Student/Faculty Committee. Most recently, *Joan* served on MPI's Community Membership Committee. MPI honored *Eisenstodt* in 1991 as its *International Planner of the Year*.

*Joan Eisenstodt* is an 18 year member of ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership. She served on the Meetings & Expositions Section Council, chaired an ASAE Management & Meetings Forum, and served on the Research Committee of the ASAE Foundation. For 5 years, she served as Dean and taught the majority of ASAE's Meetings Management Program, part of the ASAE School of Association Management. *Joan* most recently served 3 years on ASAE and The Center's Diversity Committee and on *The Journal of Association Leadership* Editorial Board, and currently serves on the Ethics Committee.

*Joan* is 20+ year active member of the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) where she served on the Ethics Committee, the Diversity Committee, the Strategic Products & Services Task Force, on an education work group, and as Chair of the Student and Faculty Activities Working Group. PCMA recognized *Joan* in 1990 as their *Teacher of the Year*. She most recently co-wrote a chapter for a revision of PCMA's meetings handbook and is a PCMA "Education Thought-Leader."

*Joan Eisenstodt* is a member of the International Association of Facilitators (IAF) where she is an annual meeting session peer reviewer; the Green Meetings Industry Council (GMIC), the World Future Society; and the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International (HSMAI.) *Joan* was Co-Chair of the Meeting & Site Profiles Panel for APEX (Accepted Practices Exchange) for the CIC (Convention Industry Council.) She is a Commissioner and as such, reviews applications for the Accredited Destination Management Company certification.

*Joan* was one of the first four recipients of the *Pacesetter Award* from the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International and of the *Pyramid Award* from the International Association of Conference Centers (IACC), both for her contributions to education in and about the meetings and hospitality industry.

She has been regularly on the list of "*One of the 25 Most Influential People in the Meetings Industry*" (*Meeting News* magazine); *Successful Meetings Magazine* named *Joan* one of the "Power Players" ("10 Women Who are Changing the Industry"); *Corporate Meetings & Incentives* magazine featured *Joan* as one of "The 'A' List: 10 Women Meeting Industry Leaders." In 2008, *Meeting News*, in a new list, added *Joan* to the list of the "25 Most Powerful" in the industry. *Joan Eisenstodt* is an inductee in the Convention Industry Hall of Leaders, the industry's highest honor. In 2006, she was named "Planner Partner" by the National Speakers Association. In 2008, *Joan* was honored by the PCMA Educations Foundation for her life-time achievement as an educator in the hospitality and meetings industry.